

Dissertation marking and feedback sheet

Programme: Erasmus Mundus MA/Mgr. in Special and Inclusive Education

Module: Dissertation

Module code: ERM030L003S

Student Name: Alina Cretu

1st Marker's name: doc. PhDr. Jan Šiška, Ph.D.

Title of dissertation:

Parental experiences: inclusion of children with autism spectrum disorder in mainstream education in Romania.

Comments and questions:

- Choice and relevance of the title is justified with reference to educational reality in Romania and internationally. You use literature to argue that your data are worth analyzing. You also define the educational and cultural place and the production conditions of your material.
- Sufficient variety of literature is explored and discussed. Design of the project reflects research problem of the project. Methodology is soundly argued and justified.
- Alina, you state that Romania has signed and ratified a serious treaties and conventions. However, UN CRPD is missing in your list. (?) On same page 12 you refer to The Education Law No. 84/1995 and The Education Law 1/2011. Does thus Romania have two Laws on Education, one inclusive and one segregative?
- Regarding the research sample, we usually speak about data saturation: data collection can be terminated when new cases no longer disclose new features. Will you please comment on data saturation related to your research sample? And, will you also "unpack" following statement: *"First, the research was carried out in a limited time span, thus the information acquired are not sufficient to generalize the findings."* /p. 53/? (Your research planning was not fully realistic, it seems).
- Analysis: How was the analysis constructed, was it based on a personal intuitive interpretation or were some formal procedures applied?
- Verification: Which measures were taken to ensure the validity of the findings?

- To which extent are your findings similar or different to other studies your present /for example p. 14/?
- The dissertation is thematically structured in a standard way of reporting qualitative research. Language used is correct and straight forward.
- It would be appropriated to allow readers to visualize the structure of data coding in the presentation of results. Data should also be presented so that the reader is able to view the different levels of coding and how data were categorized and subcategorized. Nevertheless, you describe the analytical process in an honest and convincing way.
- Overall, there is a clear engagement with course aims and substantial attainment of learning outcomes. Well done!

2nd Marker's Name: PhDr. Pavlína Šumníková, PhD.

2nd Marker's Comments:

Alina uses the literature to build an argument and advance the field. Alina works with the medical and the social model of disability she analyses the international and the Romanian context of inclusion of children with ASD.

Theory is well conceived and logically consistent, parts of the parents' views about inclusion and the parents' experiences of inclusion process of children with ASD are very interesting.

The work is well-written, the structure is adequate, and the author discussed strengths, weaknesses and limitations of the study.

Alina uses qualitative method such as semi-structured, open-ended, one-to-one interviews. She discusses why method was chosen and describes advantages and disadvantages. She analyses these categories:

- The meanings the parents of children with ASD associate with inclusion,
- parents' motives for seeking inclusion for their children with ASD,
- parental experiences regarding the enrolment of their children,
- parental experiences regarding the inclusion practices and barriers.

Data presentation is based on the citations of answers of responders with a summary at the end (chapter 4.3. Discussion). Data presentation is clear but strongly influenced by methodological limits described in detail in the previous chapter and by subjectivity of respondents.

The theme selected by Alina Cretu is very actual and important. I agree with the acceptance of this work.

My questions are:

- How way do you see for future researches?
- Can you compare your research topics with your experience, visits and interviews with teachers from the Czech Republic?

AGREED MARK:

(All Grades are provisional and Subject to Confirmation by the Board of Examiners and by Senate)

1 st marker	1
2 nd marker	2
Agreed mark	1
Adjusted mark after the Viva (where appropriate)	-----

doc. PhDr. Jan Siska, Ph.D.



PAULINA ŠUMIKOVÁ



Lenka Felermanová



JANA STARA' jae sta'